Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

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DA 06-2369

Release Date: November 27, 2006

THE WIRELINE COMPETITION BUREAU SEEKS COMMENT ON
THE STATE E-RATE COORDINATORS' ALLIANCE PETITION FOR THE CLARIFICATION
OR WAIVER OF E-RATE RULES CONCERNING STATE REPLACEMENT CONTRACTS
UNDER THE SCHOOLS AND LIBRARIES UNIVERSAL SERVICE SUPPORT MECHANISM

CC Docket No. 02-6

Comment Date: December 18, 2006 Reply Comment Date: January 8, 2007

Interested parties are invited to comment on the petition filed by the State E-Rate Coordinators' Alliance (SECA) seeking clarification or waiver of the Commission's rules under the schools and libraries universal service support mechanism, also known as the E-rate program, as they apply to state replacement contracts. Currently, USAC's procedure for funding requests for services covered by state master contracts that are scheduled to expire, but expected to be renewed, during the funding year requires an applicant to file two separate funding requests. SECA asks the Commission to clarify its contract extension rules to permit an applicant to extend the contract expiration date of a renewed state master contract. Alternatively, if the rules do not permit such extensions, SECA asks for a modification and/or permanent waiver of the Commission's rules to allow them.

Interested parties may file **comments on or before December 18, 2006**, and **reply comments on or before January 8, 2007**. All pleadings are to reference **CC Docket No. 02-6**. Comments may be filed using: (1) the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS), (2) the Federal Government's eRulemaking Portal, or (3) by filing paper copies. *See Electronic Filing of Documents in Rulemaking Proceedings*, 63 FR 24121 (1998).

- Electronic Filers: Comments may be filed electronically using the Internet by accessing the ECFS: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/ or the Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Filers should follow the instructions provided on the website for submitting comments.
- For ECFS filers, if multiple docket or rulemaking numbers appear in the caption of this proceeding, filers must transmit one electronic copy of the comments for each docket or rulemaking number referenced in the caption. In completing the transmittal screen, filers should include their full name, U.S. Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket or

¹ Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, CC Docket No. 02-6, Petition for the Clarification of Waiver of E-Rate Rules Concerning State Replacement Contracts Under the Schools and Libraries Universal Service Support Mechanism, filed Sept. 29, 2006 (SECA Petition).

rulemaking number. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions, filers should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in response.

Paper Filers: Parties who choose to file by paper must file an original and four copies of each
filing. If more than one docket or rulemaking number appears in the caption of this proceeding,
filers must submit two additional copies for each additional docket or rulemaking number.

Filings can be sent by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (although we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail). All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

The Commission's contractor will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002. The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of <u>before</u> entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class, Express, and Priority mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, S.W., Washington D.C. 20554.

People with Disabilities: To request materials in accessible formats for people with disabilities (braille, large print, electronic files, audio format), send an e-mail to fcc504@fcc.gov or call the Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau at (202) 418-0530 (voice), (202) 418-0432 (tty).

You may submit comments, identified by the above noted docket number, by any of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- Federal Communications Commission's Web Site: http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- People with Disabilities: Contact the FCC to request reasonable accommodations (accessible format documents, sign language interpreters, CART, etc.) by e-mail: fcc504@fcc.gov or phone: (202) 418-0530 or TTY: (202) 418-0432.

In addition, one copy of each pleading must be sent to each of the following:

- (1) The Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-B402, Washington, D.C. 20554; www.bcpiweb.com; phone: (202) 488-5300, fax: (202) 488-5563;
- (2) Gina Spade, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B550, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: gina.spade@fcc.gov; and
- (3) Toni Stevens, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room 5-B521, Washington, D.C. 20554; e-mail: antoinette.stevens@fcc.gov.

Filings and comments are also available for public inspection and copying during regular business hours at the FCC Reference Information Center, Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CY-

A257, Washington, D.C. 20554. They may also be purchased from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Best Copy and Printing, Inc., Portals II, 445 12th Street, S.W., Room CYB402, Washington, D.C. 20554, telephone: (202) 488-5300, fax: (202) 488-5563.

This matter shall be treated as a "permit-but-disclose" proceeding in accordance with the Commission's *ex parte* rules.² Persons making oral ex parte presentations are reminded that memoranda summarizing the presentations must contain summaries of the substance of the presentation and not merely a listing of the subjects discussed. More than a one or two sentence description of the views and arguments presented generally is required.³ Other rules pertaining to oral and written *ex parte* presentations in permit-but-disclose proceedings are set forth in section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules.⁴

For further information, please contact Gina Spade or Alexander Minard, Telecommunications Access Policy Division, Wireline Competition Bureau at (202) 418-7400 or TTY (202) 418-0484.

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²47 C.F.R. §§ 1.1200 et seq.

³See 47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b)(2).

⁴47 C.F.R. § 1.1206(b).